

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 ORM-02 DHA-02 EB-08 TRSE-00 OMB-01  
/102 W

-----250634Z 032726 /11

R 241245Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3475

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 0276

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ET, SU

SUBJECT: ETHIOPIAN DEVELOPMENTS

1. COMMISSIONER OF KASSALA PROVINCE TOLD SUNA JAN 24  
SITUATION ALONG SUDAN-ETHIOPIAN BORDER CALM ALTHOUGH,  
HE ADDIED, ARMY IS ON FULL ALERT. HE ANNOUNED 500  
ETHIOPIAN CITIZENS HAVE TAKEN REFUGE IN KASSALA PROVINCE  
IN PAST WEEK AFTER FLEEING FROM WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS  
GENOCIDE OPERATIONS, REPRESSION AND INDISCRIMINATE  
BOMBING. HE INDICATED 150 ETHIOPIAN MILITARY OFFICERS  
AND MEN ALSO TOOK REFUGE ALTHOUGH IT NOT CLEAR WHETHER  
THEY IN ADDITION TO OR PART OF 500 ETHIOPIANS ALREADY  
MENTIONED. AYAM REPORTS JAN 24 ETHIOPIAN AIR FORCE  
ATTACKS LAUNCHED THURS, JAN 20, AGAINST  
GALOUG TOWN IN ERITREA. APPARENTLY THESE RAIDS LED TO  
REFUGEES METNIONED ABOVE.

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2. SAHAFA, QUOTING PLS MILITARY COMMANDER AFEWORK, REPORTS  
PLF ORGANIZATION CONFERENCE ENDED EIGHT-DAY MEETING  
JAN 23. CONFERENCE ADOPTED MANY SECRET RESOLUTIONS AND  
RECOMMENDATIONS. AFEWORK SAID REBEL TROOPS HAVE NOW  
LIBERATED 75 PERCENT OF ERITREA. HE SAID EPMG  
CONCENTRATING LARGE NUMBER OFFICERS AND MEN IN ASMARA,  
NAGAFA AND KEREN, BUT AFEWORK SAID REBELS HAVE BEEN

ENCIRCLING THESE CONCENTRATIONS SINCE DEC 13. THEY CONTROLLING RURAL AREAS AROUND TOWNS, HE SAID, THEREBY REQUIRING EPMG TO SUPPLY ENCIRCLED GOVT TROOPS THROUGH PARATROOPERS, WHICH HE CLAIMED ENABLED REBELS CAPTURE GREAT QUANTITIES WEAPONS AND COMMODITIES.

3. IN ANOTHER DEVELOPMENT, AMERICAN BUSINESSMAN TOLD DCM JAN 24 HE HAS BEEN APPROACHED BY ERITREANS IN KHARTOUM ABOUT OBTAINING 10,000 M-16 RIFLES. BUSINESSMAN WHO IS EXPERIENCED IN INTERNATIONAL ARMS SALES, SAID IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR MANUFACTURER, COLT INDUSTRIES, SUPPLY SUCH ARMS DIRECTLY, BUT ERITREAN REBELS COULD OBTAIN THEM WITH LITTLE DIFFICULTY FROM VIETNAM WHERE THOUSANDS WERE CAPTURED. BUSINESSMAN ALSO TOLD DCM THAT ERITREANS HERE SAID IN LAST SIX MONTHS NUMBER ERITREANS BEING SENT TO USSR VIA KHARTOUM HAS INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY. ACCORDING THIS REPORT, WHICH BUSINESSMAN BELIEVES ACCURATE, SOME TWELVE HUNDRED ERITREANS HAVE PASSED THROUGH KHARTOUM ON WAY TO MOSCOW IN LAST SIX MONTHS. THIS FIRST WE HAVE HEARD OF SO MANY ERITREANS GOING TO USSR AND SEEMS TO US TO BE INCONSISTENT WITH CURRENT STATE SOVIET-ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS.

4. FOR ADDIS: INFO REQUESTED REF A RE SOMALI ACTIVITY IN SUDAN CONTAINED IN KHARTOUM 0187 SENT JAN 18. ALSO OF INTEREST WOULD BE KHARTOUM 262 OF JAN 22. BREWER

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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